

DETAILED ACTION

EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Claim 8 has been amended as follows:

In the indentation starting with "a dielectric body" after 'timer component', the following has been inserted: "said dielectric body configured to provide terminating points for each of said components for continuous operations thereof, said centralized connector module incapable of controlling said components,"

The last indentation starting with "continuity indicator circuits" has been deleted and replaced with "continuity indicator circuits integrated within said dielectric body and associated with at least some of said terminal sets, said continuity indicator circuits configured to indicate continuity faults with respect to said components."

Claim 15 has been amended as follows:

The indentations starting with "a dielectric body ..." and the next indentation starting with "continuity indicator circuits ..." have been deleted and replaced with:

"a dielectric body having interconnected terminal sets corresponding to components connectable thereacross and configured to provide terminating points for

said components for continuous operation thereof, said centralized connector module incapable of controlling said components, and

continuity indicator circuits integrated within said dielectric body and associated with at least some of said terminal sets, said continuity indicator circuits configured to indicate continuity faults with respect to connected ones of said components;"

Claim 22 has been amended as follows:

The indentations starting with "a dielectric body ..." and the next indentation starting with "continuity indicator circuits ..." have been deleted and replaced with:

"a dielectric body having interconnected terminal sets corresponding to components connectable thereacross and configured to provide terminating points for said components for continuous operation thereof, said centralized connector module incapable of controlling said components; and

continuity indicator circuits integrated within said dielectric body and associated with at least some of said terminal sets, said continuity indicator circuits configured to indicate continuity faults with respect to connected ones of said components;"

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with Mr. Joel Justiss on November 18, 2008 and verified with a facsimile on November 24, 2008 in order to place the application in condition for allowance by amending all the withdrawn claims, to contain all the limitations in allowable claim 1, therefore, rejoining withdrawn claims 8-26.

Allowable Subject Matter

Claims 1, 2, 4-27 are allowed.

In regard to claims 1, 8, 15, and 22 the prior art does not teach a dielectric body having interconnected terminal sets corresponding to components connectable thereacross and configured to provide terminating points for said components for continuous operation thereof, continuity indication circuits integrated within said dielectric body and associated with at least some of said terminal sets, said continuity indicator circuits configured to indicate continuity faults with respect to connected ones of said components and in the combination as claimed.

Claims 2, 4-7, 9-14, 16-21, and 22-27 further limit the above allowable claims and, therefore, are also allowable.

Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to JEFF NATALINI whose telephone number is (571)272-2266. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F 8-5.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Diego Gutierrez can be reached on 571-272-2245. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

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